

Atlantic Richfield Company

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April 8, 2013

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Jere Johnson
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-9-1
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: March 2013 Monthly Report, Yerington Mine Site, Lyon County, Nevada: Administrative Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), CERCLA Docket No. 9-2007-0005; Administrative Order on Consent, CERCLA Docket No. 09-2009-0010

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Pursuant to the above referenced orders issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 9 (EPA), Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) has prepared this March 2013 monthly report for RI/FS and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities at the Yerington Mine Site (Site).

March 2013 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continued Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities. Security cameras at various locations (e.g., Main and Arimetco gates, entrances to buildings) indicated no activity of concern. Several 'Danger-Keep Out' signs were damaged by weather, and replacement signage was ordered.
- Use of the generator-powered Wind Dancer on the Lined Evaporation Pond (LEP) was suspended due to warmer weather and pending improvements to the electrical supply. The Wind Dancer at the Slot Pond remained in service, and the Wind Dancers at the Pumpback Well System (PWS) Pond remained out of service pending the supply of electrical power. Propane cannons were operated at the Arimetco Fluid Management System (FMS) ponds with the exception of the VLT Pond, as directed by EPA, with start/stop times adjusted to reflect the timing of sunrise and sunset. Birdgard towers 'A', 'B' and 'C' around the PWS and LEP were shut down on March 25. The suspension of the use of Helikites and Mylar balloons continued.
- No measurable water in the PWS Evaporation Pond cells was observed by the end of March.
- Arimetco FMS pond levels: Phase 1 Pond = 3.46 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond = 8.83 feet; VLT Pond = 10.8 feet; Slot 2 Pond = 10.43 feet. A new flow meter at the FMS Evaporation Pond was installed and calibrated. Continued procurement activities for repair of the Slot Pond pump discharge piping. EPA has ordered the new diesel pump for the VLT Pond.
- Approximately 192,800 gallons of solution were pumped from the leak detectors including 20,090 gallons from SD2 near the Slot Pond and approximately 172,265 gallons from VLTD1 at the VLT Pond (see attached monitoring data). A total of approximately 612,805 gallons of solution has been pumped from the leak detectors since January 1.
- A wind storm on March 20 resulted in several areas of minor to moderate liner damage around the Phase III-4X ditch, two of which were stabilized with sandbags and zeolite bags. Initiated procurement activities for repairs to these areas.

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March 2013 Activities - Continued

Other Site Activities

- Participated in an on-Site review of FMS capacity with Singatse Peak Services LLC (SPS), the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) and EPA.
- SPS continued mineral development activities.

Site Characterization Activities

- Monthly groundwater elevation measurements were obtained March 25-28. A Level Troll 300 non-vented transducer was installed in B/W-1D2. Pump depths for B/W-25D2, B/W-62D4 and W5DB-S were confirmed. A leak in the pump tubing of MW-4B was repaired.
- A pit lake water elevation of 4229.63 feet above mean sea level (amsl) was recorded on March 25, 2013 from the pressure transducer, an increase of 0.27 feet since February 26, 2013. The pit lake elevation has risen 1.79 feet since March 25, 2012.
- One residence (DW-200) was added to the domestic well sampling program, and another residence (DW-53) requested to be temporarily removed from the program.
- One new residence (DW-183) was notified by phone on March 29 of their eligibility to be included in the Bottled Water Program (the owner has not yet responded).
- Conducted the 1Q 2013 domestic well monitoring event.
- Continued the compilation of 4Q 2012 groundwater monitoring data for inclusion in the annual report, which will include recommendations to: 1) reduce the list of analytes; 2) reduce the frequency of sample collection at select monitor wells; and 3) eliminate monthly water level monitoring from 33 piezometers associated with PWS wells.
- Reviewed EPA comments on the 2011 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report, which were transmitted via e-mail on March 27.
- Continued coordination and tracking of hydrologic tracer data from 2Q 2012 samples.
- Pulled pumps (work performed by Boart Longyear) from Anaconda bedrock wells prior to the start of the bedrock well investigation. Discussed the field investigation with EPA on a March 15 conference call, resulting in a decision to include sampling of WW-10 in the Process Areas.
- Attended a technical meeting on March 5-6 to discuss, and continued to review, EPA comments on the Revised Groundwater (OU-1) RI Work Plan. Initiated modifications to the Work Plan, and discussions with EPA technical staff about the Additional Monitor Well Work Plan element of the Work Plan. Coordinated with EPA technical staff and subcontractor (CH2M Hill) on the Data Quality Objectives (DQOs) for the Work Plan.
- Initiated discussions with the Yerington Paiute Tribe (YPT) and their groundwater consultant on conducting an aquifer test of a to-be-selected YPT production well.
- Evaluated water level and chemical data from YPT monitor wells regarding usability of the data.
- Continued Phase II field activities (work performed by Spectrum Geophysics and Desert Engineering) for the Process Areas (OU-3) Sub-Surface Utility and Dry Well Investigation through March 14.
- Participated in a conference call on March 15 with EPA to discuss the scope of groundwater-related RI activities to be conducted in the Process Areas. Initiated the Field Sampling and Analysis Plan (FSAP) required by the Process Areas (OU-3) RI Work Plan for the step-out sampling program. Discussed elements of the FSAP with EPA and NDEP. Re-surveyed Process Areas soil boring locations (work performed by Tri-State Surveying) ahead of an April Site visit with EPA to discuss the FSAP.
- Routine database management activities and support of Site investigations and reports.

Planned April/May 2013 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continue routine Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities. Repair isolated tears and small holes in the Phase III-4X collection ditch, which was damaged by the March 20 wind event.

Planned April/May 2013 Activities - Continued

Site Characterization Activities

- Continue groundwater elevation and pit lake level measurements, and meteorological monitoring.
- Continue the Bottled Water Program.
- Complete and transmit the 2012 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report. Prepare for, and conduct, the 2Q 2013 groundwater monitoring event.
- Initiate the compilation of 1Q 2013 groundwater and domestic well data. Transmit the 1Q 2013 Domestic Well Monitoring Report.
- Initiate the Bedrock Well field investigation.
- Conduct a field visit on April 9 to assess the YPT Aquifer Test Work Plan elements, and transmit the Work Plan.
- Receive the complete set of hydrologic tracer data from the May 2012 sampling event, and continue the compilation of a technical memo that summarizes the data.
- Continue to modify the revised Site-Wide Groundwater (OU-1) RI Work Plan Review based on EPA and YPT comments. Complete and transmit the Additional Monitor Well Work Plan for EPA review.
- Discuss with EPA and respond to EPA comments dated March 29 on the Groundwater Modeling Work Plan. Transmit a revised Work Plan.
- Continue remaining Phase II geophysical and soil investigations associated with sub-surface utilities in the Process Areas. Initiate and transmit a Data Summary Report for the investigations.
- Conduct a site visit to review proposed OU-3 step-out soil boring locations on April 9 with EPA, and discuss the technical feasibility of select locations. Complete and transmit the draft FSAP for the OU-3 RI Work Plan for EPA review.
- Review data quality objectives for the Wabuska Drain (OU-7) RI Work Plan when received.

Please contact me at (714) 228-6774 or via e-mail at jack.oman@bp.com if you have any questions or comments about the March 2013 monthly report.

Sincerely,



Jack Oman
Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Dave Seter, EPA – via electronic mail
Harry Ball, EPA – via electronic mail
Andrew Helmlinger, EPA – via electronic mail
Tom Dunkelman, EPA – via electronic mail
Greg Lovato, NDEP – via electronic mail
Jeryl Gardner, NDEP – via electronic mail
Tom Olsen, BLM – via electronic mail
Dan Newell, City of Yerington – via electronic mail
Phyllis Hunewill – via electronic mail
Virgil Arellano, Lyon County Commissioner – via electronic mail
Rob Loveberg, Lyon County Planning Department – via electronic mail
Tom Grady, Nevada State Assembly – via electronic mail
Jim Sanford, MVEC – via electronic mail
Lauryne Wright, YPT – via electronic mail
Chairman Stevens, YPT – via electronic mail
Dietrick McGinnis, McGinnis and Associates – via electronic mail

Tom Bowden, Ridolfi, Inc. – via electronic mail
Chairwoman McFalls, WRPT – via electronic mail
Tad Williams, WRPT – via electronic mail
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Marc Ferries, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
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